For U.S. forces serving abroad

Stripes_{TM}



A news digest from The Stars and Stripes

Tuesday, April 7, 1998

Eight pages

Base closings are a tough sell

By Congressional Quarterly

WASHINGTON — Pentagon officials hope that the latest figures on the savings that could be gained from closing additional military bases will persuade Congress to authorize another estate sale in three years.

While some lawmakers are ready to agree, fearing that the defense budget otherwise will be dangerously squeezed, others say flatly there is no way it will happen this year, with elections approaching and anger still lingering over President Clinton's actions during the 1995 base-closing round.

Clinton chose to turn over Air Force maintenance depots in Texas and California to private companies rather than let them be closed as recommended by the independent Base Closure and Realignment Commission. His move was widely seen as an end-run designed to save jobs in states key to his re-election.

Defense Secretary William Cohen on April 2 released a report to Congress showing that earlier rounds of base closings have saved more money than previously estimated.

The report found that the base closure process will break even this year — cumulative savings will offset cumulative costs — and that total net savings should climb to \$14 billion in 2001, with annual savings of \$5.6 billion in the following

years.

Cohen also said that a Defense Department inspector general's audit of the 1993 and 1995 rounds found that savings in 1993 were 29 percent greater than the department had estimated over the sixyear implementation period.

Given the financial constraints of last year's balanced-budget agreement, Cohen said his department needs some more base-closing savings if it is to upgrade its weapons systems.

"In the past, Congress could simply add several billions of dollars, and we could make things work under that basis," Cohen said at a news conference to release the report.

Cohen: Voluntary gay declarations rising

WASHINGTON (AP) — More people are being discharged from the military after volunteering that they are homosexual, but Defense Secretary William Cohen says he does not believe that means harassment of gays is on the rise.

"There are some indications that there has been an increase as far as some of the people who have declared themselves to be homosexual and have opted to getting out of the military," Cohen said Monday. "But in terms of the policy it-

self overall, I think it's working."

Cohen, appearing at a photo session, was asked about figures reportedly contained in a draft report on the Defense Department's enforcement of its "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy on homosexuality.

The report finds that discharges on grounds of homosexuality rose from 850 in 1996 to "nearly 1,000" in 1997, said several Pentagon officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"We intend to continue to emphasize the fact that this policy should not be abused, that there should be no attempt to hunt or seek out those who are — may be — homosexual, and that we intend to strictly enforce the "don't ask, don't tell" policy," Cohen said.

Cohen did not elaborate, nor did he make clear how many of those who have been discharged on grounds of homosexuality volunteered their status

One official, who spoke on

condition of anonymity, said there appears to be a variety of reasons to explain the rise in discharges. He said it appears many of those who are voluntarily disclosing their homosexuals do so shortly after entering the service. Some officers speculate that may be used as an excuse by people who are unhappy with being in the military, but they said they could not offer any figures to back up such a claim, since the military does not follow those people who return to private life.

Citicorp, Travelers approve mammoth merger

NEW YORK (AP) — Citicorp and Travelers Group are merging in a record \$70 billion deal combining the nation's second-biggest bank with a leading provider of financial services. Today's announcement sent both companies' stock prices soaring.

The deal easily surpasses the previous record price of \$37 billion that the telecommunications company WorldCom is paying for MCI.

The new company would be called Citigroup Inc., and it would have more than 100 million customers in 100 countries.

The new Citigroup would use the trademark Travelers red umbrella as its logo. It would have assets of almost \$700 billion, revenue of nearly \$50 billion and operating income of approximately \$7.5 billion.

Citicorp is the parent company of Citibank, an international banking powerhouse, and also is the world's largest issuer of credit cards with some 60 million bank cards.

Travelers Group is an insurance, brokerage and investment banking giant. Its operating companies include Salomon Smith Barney, Travelers Life & Annuity, Travelers Property Casualty Corp., Primerica Financial Services, and Commercial Credit.

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Country music legend Tammy Wynette dies

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tammy Wynette, who rose from beautician to "the first lady of country music" with hits including *Stand by Your Man*, died Monday. She was 55.

Wynette, who had had a series of health problems in recent years, died Monday evening while napping at her home, said spokeswoman Evelyn Shriver. The cause of her death was believed to have been a blood clot.

Wynette's 1968 top-seller, *Stand by Your Man*, which she co-wrote with her producer Billy Sherrill, became her signature song, with its advice to forgive one's mate because "after all, he's just a man."

But her throbbing voice in other tunes, such as *Till I Can Make It on My Own*, expressed flashes of independence.

She was one of country music's greatest success stories, catapulting from a job in a beauty shop to a three-time winner of the Country Music Association's female vocalist of the year award — 1968 to 1970. Only Reba McEntire won the honor more times — four.

She recorded more than 50 albums and sold more than 30 million records.

"When Tammy opened her mouth, it was the soul of country music," said country singer Patty Loveless.

Tammy, Dolly (Parton) and Loretta (Lynn) — that was, and always will be, the heart of this music."

Country music fans polled for the annual Music City News awards voted Wynette a legend in 1991, but she said it was premature.

"I don't consider myself a legend. I think it's kind of overused," she said.

Throughout her 25-year career, her stormy marriages and hospital stays, even a kidnapping and beating for which no one was ever convicted, threatened to overshadow one of the most successful singing careers in country music history. But she didn't emphasize the negative parts of her life.

"I've had a wonderful life," she said in a 1991 Associated Press interview.

I absolutely feel I've been blessed tremendously. I can't complain at all," she said.

Dow closes above 9,000 for first time

CHICAGO (AP) — Many small investors see the high-flying, record-breaking Dow Jones industrial average and begin counting the ways to spend their stock market winnings.

Who's got the blues? Those left on the sidelines during the unprecedented bull run by a lack of money or initiative, wondering whether they've missed a ride on one of the all-time gravy trains.

"It'd sure be nice to have some of that money," said Kwame Banks, 31, operations coordinator for the Philadelphia-based Colours Organization. "But the reason I've never gotten involved is because I never felt I was at a comfort zone to do it."

The Dow, a complicated index based on the prices of 30 blue-chip companies, is the oldest and most widely followed Wall Street indicator.

It began the year at 7,908.

Cohen: American military will stay in Macedonia

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States expects to keep its 350 troops in Macedonia as part of a United Nations peacekeeping force, Defense Secretary William Cohen said Monday.

Following a meeting with Macedonia's defense minister, Lazar Kitanoski, Cohen

also said he expected the mandate for the international peacekeeping force to be extended past its expiration date of Aug. 31

He said at a photo session with Kitanoski that the force's composition might change.

"It now has about 700 troops, half from the United States and the rest from Scandinavian nations.

Kitanoski said the American presence was vital to keeping at bay the unrest that has shaken Bosnia, and now the Kosovo area of Yugoslavia.

F-22 program slowdown resisted

By Cox News Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary William Cohen said Monday the Pentagon firmly supports keeping the F-22 Raptor program on schedule despite a congressional report that recommended a one-year delay in purchases.

At a breakfast with reporters, Cohen said it would be too costly in the long run to cut production of the first two radar-evading F-22 fighters from next year's budget, as suggested by the General Accounting Office in a report last month.

The GAO, the investigative arm of Congress, recommended the delay be-

cause some design testing programs for the "stealth" fighter have slipped behind schedule. The report concluded that the F-22 program could face disastrous cost overruns if design problems arise after production already is under way.

But Cohen said the program is too far along already.

"If we (delay production) it adds an additional \$500 million for fiscal '99 and \$3.5 billion for the program," Cohen said

"Also, it would break contracts that we currently have now which are very beneficial to the program."

Stripes

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Pentagon waves flag over computer attacks

By Scripps Howard

WASHINGTON — In early February, the Pentagon went on alert. Someone was targeting an array of sensitive military computer systems across the country and managing to penetrate them.

Alarmed that the attacks were occurring at the same time the United States was preparing for a military strike against Iraq, an emergency Joint Chiefs of Staff-led task force went on 24-hour shifts, trying to identify the attackers and catch them.

For a week — long enough for someone with ill intent to wreak havoc on the 11 Navy and Air Force unclassifed systems that had been breached — they didn't know whether they were dealing with terrorists, a hostile foreign government, an individual with an ax to grind, or relatively benign hackers getting their kicks by "pinging" the Pentagon.

That the culprits ultimately were identified as two 16-year-old California boys and an 18-year-old Israeli man on a lark — and that no classified systems were entered — brought relief to officials that the most organized and systematic assault ever on Pentagon computers was essentially a prank.

But the attack also revealed how vulnerable the nearly 2,000 defense systems are and how long it can take to even determine the nature of an intrusion. It also triggered remarkably candid public assessments of computer weaknesses that could, in the worst of cases, significantly harm American military operations.

The "kids were able to create an awful lot of disruption in the Department of Defense," Pentagon Deputy Secretary John Hamre said recently while on an overseas trip to, among other things, warn NATO allies, whose military computer networks are linked with those of the U.S., of the burgeoning threat.

The February breach was notable for its breadth, but it was merely the latest in a growing number of computer intrusions. In 1996, the Pentagon detected more than 250,000 break-in attempts, according to the U.S. General Accounting Office. Of those, 65 percent, or more than 162,500, were successful.

The problem is compounded because the Pentagon conducts 95 percent of its communications over commercial systems. And it is not the sole domain of the Defense Department. Last October, the State Department put the clamps on computer network use at two unidentified overseas posts after a GAO investigation turned up evidence an unauthorized person had gained access. Instead of using computers for communications, the posts dispatched couriers to personally deliver sensitive information on paper to the intended recipients. The Pentagon has been grappling with the headaches of information security, or "infosec" as it's known within the department, for several years.

Ambassador, Army leader Powell dead

By New York Times

Gen. Herbert Butler Powell, a former chief of the Continental Army Command and former ambassador to New Zealand, died on Saturday at a nursing home in Williamsburg, Va.

He was 94.

Powell joined the National Guard in his native Oregon and retired 43 years later, in 1963, as a four-star general.

At the time, he was in command of six armies and their equipment and training throughout the continental United States, responsible for 315,000 military personnel, 69,000 civilian employees, and 1.7 million Reservists and members of the National Guard.

He and his aides at the Army command, at Fort Monroe, Va., were also entrusted with the task of drawing up contingency plans for mobilization and training, ranging from full call-ups in case of war to limited build-ups for lesser confrontations overseas.

President John Kennedy rewarded him for his services in the Cuban missile crisis by appointing Powell ambassador to New Zealand in 1963. He served in the post in Wellington until 1967.

Powell was born in Monmouth, Ore. He joined the Oregon National Guard in 1919, rose from private to sergeant and was commissioned into the regular Army in 1926 after his graduation from the University of Oregon.

He was also a 1941 graduate of the Command and General Staff School and a 1949 graduate of the National War College. He reached flag rank by 1960.

Energy secretary Federico Pena to leave Cabinet

WASHINGTON (AP) — Energy Secretary Federico Pena, the highest-ranking Hispanic in the Clinton administration, announced his resignation Monday, citing "personal and family" reasons.

Pena, who served as transportation secretary in Clinton's first term, submitted his formal letter of resignation to President Clinton this morning and said he planned to return to private business.

He said he had decided to resign because he wanted to spend more time with his family and his three young children. "In the end, we all have to make decisions about our families," Pena said at a news conference.

As Pena spoke, 9-month-old Ryan Federico crawled near his father while his two daughters, Cristina, 6, and Nellia, 7, sat in the front row, working on coloring books.

Pena, 51, declined to discuss his future plans. For some time he reportedly has wanted to return to the private sector for financial reasons. The energy secretary earns \$148,400 a year. "There is never a perfect time for a decision like this, but I believe that after five-and-a-half years as a member of the Clinton Cabinet, the time is now right" to depart, said Pena in a memo sent to department employees. Pena took over the Energy Department just over a year ago, succeeding Hazel O'Leary, at a time when some Republican members of Congress questioned the department's usefulness.

Girls storming military schools

By Toledo Blade

Military boarding schools didn't begin to accept girls until the disastrous economic times caused by the popular revulsion against the Vietnam War, which forced roughly three-quarters of the schools that existed in 1960 to close their doors.

"Schools had to admit girls just in order to stay alive," said retired Army Col. Alvan Hadley, who was superintendent at two military academies.

Of 33 military boarding schools in North America today, 14 accept women, 19 remain all-male. Women constitute between 20 to 25 percent of the cadet corps at most of the coed schools.

Officials at all the schools that admit women say the

presence of girls has enhanced — or at least not harmed — their programs.

"Once we got over the initial organizational shock, it's the best thing that ever happened to us," said retired Army Maj. Nelson Miller, director of public relations at New Mexico Military Institute, which went coed in 1975.

The presence of girls required some modification in the disciplining of cadets, Miller said. But the presence of girls at the military institute has made the academy "better preparation for life," he said.

"When the Virginia Military Institute and the Citadel were required to go coed, they came here to see how to do it right," Miller said.

Officials at the schools that remain all-male say the pres-

ence of girls would be at best a distraction, at worst would gut their programs.

"Academically, our school works best in an all-male environment," said Charles Moore, enrollment services director at St. John's Northwestern in Delafield, Wis.

"The lack of the distractions of the girls is very positive," agreed Jonathan Dwight, president of the Florida Air Academy in Melbourne.

The schools that accept girls as members of the cadet corps generally have more relaxed discipline regimens than those that have remained all-male. And schools that say they attempt behavior modification have remained all-male.

One school that went coed for reasons other than financial pressure is Culver Acade-

my in Culver, Ind. Culver has a substantial endowment and a long waiting list. Culver went coed chiefly because alumni and faculty members who had daughters wanted their daughters to get a Culver education, said Eric Freeman, assistant to the president. Culver began admitting girls as day students in 1968 and as boarders in 1971. The presence of girls has not harmed the boys programs because the Culver Military Academy and the Culver Girls Academy are kept separate, Freeman said. "We have 'coordinate' programs, not a 'coed' program," Freeman said. "The boys and girls eat together and attend class together, but the schools are run differently. The girls' school is run ... like the English public schools."

Activists tell Army to dispose of chemical weapons safely

By Scripps Howard

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Army must adopt safer ways to dispose of the nation's stockpile of chemical weapons, community activists said Monday.

The Chemical Weapons Working Group, a national coalition opposed to chemical incineration, gathered on Capitol Hill to protest burning nerve and mustard gases and to urge the Army to examine alternatives such as neutralization.

"The nation is at a crossroads," said spokesman Craig Williams. "Either Congress continues to permit the Army to blunder down the dead-end path of incineration ... or it funds clean, safe alternative technologies to eliminate the stockpile more cost-effectively."

Williams said the U.S. chemical weapons incineration program is more than 800 percent over budget at a cost of \$15.6 billion and is 14 years behind schedule. The deadline for completing incineration, initially

1994, has slipped to at least 2007.

He did not offer specific figures for the costs of alternative technologies.

An Army spokesman in Anniston, Ala., where a \$565 million incinerator is under construction by Westinghouse Corp., defended the safety record of incineration and the Army's progress in eliminating the nation's chemical stockpile.

"The fact that we are over budget and longer than anticipated is undeniable; however, I think it is an unfair slap at the program," spokesman Michael Abrams said. "Every time we come up with an acceptable program ... others come in and question and question again and guess and double guess, and in my estimation have put artificial delays in the program."

Abrams said earlier disposal methods — such as burying the weapons or putting them on concrete caskets and sinking them in the ocean — have presented greater environmental threats than burning.

Spy suspects wrongly bugged, lawyers contend

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — The FBI improperly bugged the home of a Pentagon lawyer and her husband without having enough reason to suspect them of spying, and the surveillance did not show they were spies, defense lawyers argued Monday.

Theresa M. Squillacote, 40, and Kurt A. Stand, 43, were taped continually for 550 days, and their apartment was searched before they were arrested in October.

"It was a total bust," said Ms. Squillacote's lawyer, Lawrence S. Robbins, as the defense asked that surveillance tapes be excluded from the case.

The FBI also kept listening to conversations about Ms. Squillacote's mental health, the couple's financial problems and play dates for their children long after it was clear the matters had nothing to do with espionage, the couple's lawyers said.

U.S. District Judge Claude M. Hilton did not say when he will rule on the defense motion.

NATO official is confident in Hungary

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Allegations that Hungary has continued to spy on NATO aren't new, but the military alliance is confident that Hungary is making necessary intelligence operation reforms, a senior NATO official said Monday.

"We believe that by the time Hungary will join NATO, it will be a reliable protector of NATO's secret information," Alexander Vershbow, U.S. permanent representative to the North Atlantic Council, told reporters.

His comments came in response to a weekend article in the German magazine Der Spiegel claiming the three front-runners for NATO admission, Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic, are spying on NATO.

Similar allegations have been raised previously by Western news organizations, Vershbow said.

Earlier in the day, Istvan Nikolits, the minister in charge of Hungary's intelligence services, denied the allegations in a statement released by the state news agency, MTI.

"We have never and are not carrying out any espionage activity against NATO or its member countries," the statement said.

Vershbow, who is based in Brussels, has already visited Warsaw and plans to travel to Prague this month. He said he had hoped to arrive in the capitals after the United States had ratified their admission into NATO.

"The decision was postponed for domestic reasons, and I'm confident the vote will be positive," he said.

Stasi used boy hookers to spy on Westerners

By London Observer Service BERLIN — Male prostitutes as young as 12 were used by the Stasi secret police to spy on Western diplomats during the Cold War, according to a new study of prostitution in East Germany.

The boys, who were based at a brothel in East Berlin's raffish Prenzlauer Berg district, would dress in women's clothes to entertain their Western guests under the watchful gaze of the secret police.

"These were effeminate boys who appealed to a certain kind of male client.

"The Stasi had an unofficial relationship with the brothel and, when its owner was prosecuted and sent to jail, they arranged for him to be released quietly after six months," said Berlin sociologist Uta Falck, the book's author.

Because prostitution was made illegal in East Germany in 1968, the Stasi

did not run brothels of its own or force women into prostitution. But 95 percent of East Berlin's estimated 3,000 prostitutes had links with the secret police and routinely provided information about Western clients.

Some kind-hearted prostitutes warned clients about the cameras hidden in bars and hotel rooms which photographed everything from the first, fumbling approach to the end of the sexual act.

But most customers, usually drunken Western businessmen far from home, were unaware that their intimate activities were being recorded and studied by East Berlin's spies.

"Western visitors were always given particular rooms in the big hotels, so surveillance was very easy.

But, by the mid-'70s, attitudes in the West had changed in such a way that the revelation that someone visited a prostitute was not so devastating any more," said Falck.

Dead animals, Gulf chemicals unrelated

LONDON (AP) — There is no evidence that dead animals seen in the desert by troops during the Gulf War were killed by chemical or biological weapons, Britain's Defense Ministry said Monday.

The inquiry was part of a pledge by Prime Minister Tony Blair's Labor government to investigate more closely veterans' complaints about a range of illnesses they call Gulf War syndrome.

"We have found nothing to suggest that the dead animals which were seen by British troops in the Gulf in 1990-91 had been killed by chemical or biological weapons," said Armed Forces Minister John Reid.

The inquiry consisted of officials trawling through official records about sightings of animals, interviewing personnel and sending a questionnaire to a random sample of 500 veterans.

Reid said inquiries continued into possible links between chemicals and subsequent illnesses among veterans.

Depositions shed light on Japanese war crimes

TOKYO (AP) — In statements for war crimes trials in China 42 years ago, senior Japanese military officials provided detailed admissions of biological warfare, poison gas attacks and sexual slavery.

Those depositions, to be published Thursday in the May edition of the Japanese magazine Sekai, fill in some chapters of a history that Japan has been reluctant to acknowledge.

In one account, Masaru Uesaka, a major general, tells of a May 1942 poison gas operation that killed more than 1,000 Chinese soldiers and civilians in China's northern Hebei province.

In another excerpt, Hiraku Suzuki, a lieutenant general, recalls ordering the abduction of Chinese and Korean women to serve in front-line military brothels and the use of cholera as a biological warfare agent.

In a copy of the magazine obtained by The Associated Press, a freelance Japanese photojournalist says he obtained the material from a war criminal detention center in northeast China's Liaoning province. In all, the depositions of 45 ranking Japanese military officials and bureaucrats were released. Most of the Japanese involved in the 1956 trials were released before the end of their sentences or died in prison.

Ex-member of Milli Vanilli is found dead

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) — Rob Pilatus, a former model whose career as half the pop music duo Milli Vanilli crashed in disgrace and drug addiction after it was revealed that the group lip-synched its songs, has died, Bild am Sonntag newspaper said Sunday.

He was 32.

Pilatus was alone when he died in a Frankfurt hotel room late Thursday after consuming alcohol and pills, the newspaper reported.

The newspaper quoted Milli Vanilli producer Frank Farian as saying Pilatus had been drinking Thursday evening, but "we didn't know ... that he was taking tablets that are very dangerous with alcohol."

An autopsy was being conducted to determine the exact cause of death, the newspaper said.

Frankfurt police refused to comment.

Pilatus and his Milli Vanilli partner, Fabrice Morvan, won a 1989 Grammy for Best New Artist after hits like *Blame it on the Rain* and *All or Nothing*.

But in late 1990, the performers were stripped of the award after it was revealed that neither actually sang on Milli Vanilli records; that was done by studio musicians who were not credited.

Morvan said in an interview with the VH1 cable music network last year that he and Pilatus were deceived into fronting the phony group.

Females now ruling music-buying public

Faces

'n

By Associated Press

NEW YORK — If an allowance didn't limit her, Ryan Boucher would quickly expand her music collection beyond the Spice Girls, Sublime and Mari-

ah Carey. At least the 13-year-old girl can go to the mall and dream about compact discs.

"I go in and I can stare at them for five hours—
not buy, just stare at them," the Rye,
N.Y., resident said. "It's so difficult to decide on just one."

Ryan and her girlfriends are behind a big change in the music industry.

Females bought more music than males last year for the first time since the recording industry began keeping statistics. Teen-age fans of the Spice Girls, Hanson and the Backstreet Boys are leading the way.

Female buyers outnumbered males by 51 to 49 percent, compared to a decade ago when men outnumbered women buying music by 57 to 43 percent, according to the Recording Industry Association of America.

"It does seem that there are a lot more women in the store than there used to be," said Michael Williams, general manager of Tower Records in Long Beach, Calif. "The music, more than in the last number of years, seems to be very female-oriented."

It's no stretch to declare women the tastemakers in today's music scene. Pop music and heart-tugging ballads — think Natalie Imbruglia and Celine Dion — are in style. Heavy, dour rock is out.

In The Stars and Stripes

10 YEARS AGO

April 7, 1988 — Calling his overwhelming Wisconsin victory over Jesse Jackson a sign that voters think he has the "strength and experience" to be president, Michael Dukakis said a win in New York's primary could clear his path to the Democratic nomination.

20 YEARS AGO

April 7, 1978 — Amnesty International described North Carolina's penitentiary system as repressive and demanded the pardon of black civil rights workers it claimed were political prisoners.

30 YEARS AGO

April 7, 1968 — Twenty-one people were killed across the nation in violent incidents sparked by the slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King.

40 YEARS AGO

April 7, 1958 — The Cuban army announced that it had isolated the main group of rebels led by Fidel Castro in the Sierra Maestra mountains of eastern Oriente province. **50 YEARS AGO**

April 7, 1948 — Finnish politicians said a friendship and security pact Finland signed with Russia cemented the republic tighter into the Eastern bloc, but at the same time preserved its sovereignty.

'Lost in Space' bumps 'Titanic' from No. 1 spot

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Danger, James Cameron: Sensors show the Space Family Robinson has torpedoed "Titanic" out of the No. 1 box office berth.

"Lost in Space," the movie version of the campy 1960s television series, knocked the record-setting *Titanic* from its 15-week reign Sunday as the top film in North America, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc.

Preliminary figures showed the film grossing \$20.5 million in its opening weekend. *Titanic*, which recently won a record-tying 11 Oscars, including Cameron for best director, was No. 2 with \$11.6 million — a 24 percent drop in ticket sales from the previous week.

Mercury Rising, a new film starring Bruce Willis, placed third with \$10.8 million, followed by the re-issue of Grease, which grossed \$5.5 million.

Al Shapiro, president of distribution for New Line Cinema, said the wide appeal of *Lost in Space* made it the ideal film to topple the shipwreck saga.

"It's a family film that they can take their 7-, 8- and 9-year-olds to see and it appeals to the parent," he said.

Martinez, Finley get no-decisions in duel

By Associated Press

The Anaheim hitters were not much of a match for Pedro Martinez. Fortunately for the Angels, their pitchers were more than equal.

Chuck Finley lasted longer than Martinez, though both were gone when Matt

Walbeck's single in the bottom of the 11th inning lifted Anaheim over the Boston Red Sox 2-1 Monday night.



"Finley's a good pitcher and you have to expect that

he's going to put up a good battle," Martinez said. "It's nothing to be surprised about. He's a great pitcher, so you have to expect that it's going to be a close game."

Martinez, the 1997 NL Cy Young winner, struck out nine in seven innings.

Finley struck out 10 in nine innings. He allowed four hits, compared to seven off Martinez.

"We were just trying to mix up the pitches," said Walbeck, Finley's catcher. "I don't really like to talk too much to Chuck about pitch selection because I don't want us to basically out-think ourselves, so we just wanted to take it one pitch at a time."

In other games, Seattle beat New York 8-0, and Chicago defeated Texas 5-4. The Cleveland at Oakland game was suspend-

ed because of curfew after eight innings with the Indians ahead 6-5.

Garret Anderson drew a one-out walk in the Angels 11th from Tom Gordon (0-1) and took third on Carlos Garcia's hitand-run single. With the outfield drawn in, Walbeck hit a fly ball over Troy O'Leary's head, barely inside the line in left.

Earlier, Walbeck made a throwing error that set up Boston's run.

"You certainly want to make amends when something like that happens, but you don't want to try too hard," Walbeck said. "I didn't try to put too much pressure on myself. The first swing I took was terrible and I was way too tense. But then I took a deep breath, relaxed and just let it happen."

Mike Holtz (1-0) was the winner in his 100th major league appearance.

Indians 6, Athletics 5, suspended, 8 innings

In a game delayed by rain for 3 1/2 hours, Cleveland led at the Oakland Coliseum when play was stopped after eight innings because of the AL's curfew rule.

About 200 fans from the announced attendance of 6,963 remained in the stands when the game was halted at 1:22 a.m. PDT.

Under AL rules, no inning may start after 1 a.m. local time.

Johnson has huge ERA in pair of starts

SEATTLE (AP) — What's wrong with Randy Johnson?

Johnson and the Mariners say nothing, but his perplexing 9.26 ERA after two starts has Seattle's fans beginning to wonder.

Johnson (0-1) was the loser in a 10-5 defeat Sunday by the Boston Red Sox in his second start.

He surrendered seven runs on six hits and walked four, while striking out 10 in six innings.

Not to worry, the Mariners insist. "I am not concerned about Randy one bit," Seattle manager Lou Piniella said.

"I'm not going to get upset over two games," Johnson said.

Johnson's poor start comes in the final year of his contract with Seattle after a winter of discontent for the 6-foot-10 left-hander.

The Mariners said in November that they wouldn't extend his contract after 1998.

The 1995 AL Cy Young Award winner became the franchise's first 20-game winner last season when he was 20-4 and had a 2.28 earned run average with 291 strikeouts in 29 starts.

Too early to get excited, hot Cubs say

By Associated Press

At this point last season, the Chicago Cubs were just about out of it. This time, they've won six straight following an opening-day loss.

"You can't say, 'We're 6-1, start buying World Series tickets.' We've got a long way to go," closer Rod Beck said after Monday's 3-2 victory over the Montreal Expos "You've got to play consistent baseball."

The only thing 1998 and 1997 have in common is the opener. After losing their first game last year, the Cubs lost their next 13, too.

"I think the All-Star break is a pretty good time to look at things," said first baseman Mark Grace, who doubled in a run. "We've beaten teams we need to beat. Now we have to take this momentum into the next series against the Mets."



Montreal is resembling the Cubs — the '97 version. After purging most of their veterans to save money, the Expos are the only winless team in the majors at 0-6 and have set a fran-

chise record for worst start.

"We're not giving games away — that's one thing I can say," Expos manager Felipe Alou said.

In other games Monday, Milwaukee beat Florida 8-5, Pittsburgh beat New York 4-2 and Houston defeated Colorado 13-4.

At Wrigley Field, Mark Clark (2-0) hit a go-ahead single with two outs in the sixth. Clark gave up both runs and six hits in eight innings, and Beck finished with one-hit relief for his fourth save in four chances.

Carlos Perez (0-2) scattered nine hits in a complete game.

Brewers 8. Marlins 5

Jeff Cirillo tied a club record with three doubles and visiting Milwaukee completed its first series sweep in the National League, winning its fourth straight against the World Series champions.

Milwaukee has won five in a row, while the Marlins have lost six straight since an opening-day victory.

Nets keep playoff hopes alive

By Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey
— Sam Cassell carried the New Jersey
Nets and their playoff hopes for the second straight game with career-high 35
points, 11 assists and no turnovers in a
125-115 win over the Charlotte Hornets.

The victory gave the Nets (39-36) a one-game lead over idle Washington (38-37) for the eighth and final playoff berth in the East. Orlando (38-38) is still 1 1/2 games back despite beating Philadelphia 113-92.

The Nets won Monday's game in the opening 14 minutes, hitting 18 of their first 25 shots to open a 17-point lead that eventually grew to 20 just before half-time.

In other action, it was Magic 113, 76ers 92; Blazers 79, Spurs 75; and Suns 102, SuperSonics 92.



In Orlando, Florida, Nick Anderson scored 34 points and Orlando kept pace in the Eastern Conference playoff race.

The triumph snapped a three-game losing streak and

kept the 10th-place Magic within striking distance in their three-way battle with New Jersey and Washington for the eighth playoff spot in the East.

With six games to go, Orlando trails the eighth-place Nets by 1 1/2 games and are one-half game behind Washington.

Anderson hit his first seven shots and

finished 13-for-20, including 6-for-9 on 3-point attempts. Allen Iverson led Philadelphia with 23 points.

In San Antonio, Rasheed Wallace scored 28 points, including two key free throws down the stretch, as Portland moved three games ahead of Minnesota for sixth place in the Western Conference.

Wallace hit 10-of-12 shots in that first half, ended up 13-of-21 from the field, while his free throws put the Blazers ahead 78-75 with 1:02 left.

After Jaren Jackson and Vinny Del Negro missed 3-pointers that would have tied the game, Damon Stoudamire hit one free throw with 5.5 seconds left to clinch the win.

Avalanche suddenly finding winning is a huge challenge

By Associated Press

Things finally went right for the Dallas Stars. The Colorado Avalanche are still trying to figure out what's going wrong.

"There is no such thing as cruising in this league," Colorado forward Keith Jones said after the Avalanche

lost 3-1 to the Los Angeles Kings on Monday night. "This is an urgent time of the year and if we don't get our game going, we won't be playing at the end of May."



It was the fifth straight loss for the Pacific Division leaders, their longest streak since the franchise was in Quebec in the 1993-94 season.

And it cost them a chance to clinch their fourth straight division title.

The Central-leading Stars, meanwhile, finally managed a victory after three straight losses by beating Toronto 4-2.

The Stars had been 1-5-1 in their previous seven games.

"It's been a rough stretch," Stars coach Ken Hitchcock said.

"It was eating away at us and we were pressing. We're not out of it yet, but this helps."

Elsewhere, it was Carolina 3, Boston 0; Montreal 2, Washington 2;

New York Islanders 3, Tampa Bay 0; and Edmonton 3, Vancouver 2.

Kings 3, Avalanche 1

Stephane Fiset stopped 31 shots to end a personal four-game losing streak and gain a career-high 25th win.

Craig Johnson scored a third-period goal and Jozef Stumpel matched a career high with his 21st for the Kings.

Joe Sakic, who recently returned from an extended injury, scored his second goal in as many games and his first at home since Feb. 5 for the Avalanche. Patrick Roy had 35 saves in losing his fourth straight.

"The main thing was my teammates kept things clear in front of me and didn't let them get to many rebounds," said Fiset (25-22-8).

"When I get an effort like that in front me, it is hard to beat this team."

Stars 4, Maple Leafs 2

Joe Nieuwendyk scored twice as Dallas won for only the second time in eight games.

The Stars had scored nine goals in their previous seven games, but Nieuwendyk notched his 34th and 35th after the Maple Leafs had taken a 1-0 lead, and the Stars went on to hand visiting Toronto its fourth consecutive defeat.

Aaron to help in NL's return to Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Who better than Hank Aaron to throw out the ceremonial first pitch for the Milwaukee Brewers' first National League game at County Stadium?

Baseball's home run king spent the first 12 years of his career in Milwaukee, helping the Braves capture two league titles and a World Series trophy before the team moved to Atlanta in 1966.

Although Milwaukee re-entered baseball in 1970 with an American League franchise when the bankrupt Pilots moved from Seattle, the city's fans never seemed to get over losing their NL team.

"Milwaukee has always considered itself a National League city," said Aaron, who was traded to the Brewers in 1975 to finish his career, hitting the last of his 755 career homers. NL president Leonard Coleman will attend Tuesday's ceremonies before the game with the Montreal Expos. "We're not only celebrating our future in the National League, but the return to Milwaukee's baseball roots," Brewers vice president Laurel Prieb said. The Brewers agreed to move to the NL to accommodate expansion teams in Arizona and Tampa Bay. The change has stirred passions in Milwaukee, where the Brewers have sold more than 1 million advance tickets.